

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) A drill bit for drilling hard tissue and injecting medication comprising:
a shaft having a proximal end with a first opening, a distal end with a second opening and
a beveled cutting surface;
a lumen inside the shaft that extends between first and second openings, and that receives
debris entering the first opening as a result of operation of the cutting surface; ~~and~~
an open notch disposed in the shaft, and having a length greater than a diameter of the
lumen; and
wherein an overall length from a distal tip of the cutting surface to a proximal end of the
open notch is greater than a thickness of the hard tissue.

15. (previously presented) The drill bit of claim 14, wherein the notch is contiguous with the second opening.

16. (currently amended) The drill bit of claim 14, wherein the ~~cutting surface terminates in a distal tip, and a proximal end of the notch~~ overall length is about 0.10 to 0.125 inches ~~from the distal tip.~~

17. (previously presented) The drill bit of claim 14, wherein the notch is axially extended from the second opening.

18. (previously presented) The drill bit of claim 14, wherein the shaft is substantially smooth.

19. (previously presented) A method of injecting a substance into a bone, comprising:
using a drill bit according to claim 14 to drill a hole in the bone; and
injecting the substance into the proximal opening.

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 19, comprising using a hypodermic needle to inject the substance.

21. (previously presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the substance comprises a medication.

22. (previously presented) The drill bit of claim 14, wherein the shaft is disposed in an elongated hub.

23. (previously presented) The drill bill of claim 22, wherein the lumen is extended from proximal and distal ends of the hub.

24. (canceled)